**Call for Abstracts**

The purpose of the Dairy Cattle Welfare Council (DCWC) is to promote dairy cattle welfare by bringing together members of the dairy community to develop the optimal herd practices for animal well-being, management, human-animal interaction, productivity, and overall animal care. The annual symposium is targeted towards dairy producers, consultants, dairy industry representatives, academia/extension, and veterinarians.

The DCWC is pleased to announce the Call for Abstracts for the 2020 Dairy Cattle Welfare Symposium!

Graduate students are encouraged to submit abstracts for the annual Dairy Cattle Welfare Symposium held in Syracuse, New York on May 27-28, 2020. This is an open call for current research related to dairy welfare. However, preference will be given to those who submit abstracts pertaining to focus topic areas at this year’s conference, which include: cow-calf contact and alternative housing, end of life decisions, welfare evaluation, public communication, or abstracts which complement these subjects well. The full 2020 Symposium program can be found here: [https://www.dcwcouncil.org/symposium](https://www.dcwcouncil.org/symposium).

Abstracts will be evaluated on the basis of scientific merit and relevance to this year’s focal symposium topics. Abstracts should include a clearly worded statement of the subject scope and research objectives, description of methods to address objectives, and a summary of results. Research may be published or unpublished and may have been presented at other meeting, but it should be recent work from the presenting student. Preference will be given to PhD student submissions.

This is a competitive process and only six (6) students will be selected to travel to the Symposium and present their abstracts; all expenses will be paid. These students will deliver an oral presentation in a scientific format (12 minutes to present and 3 minutes for open questions from the audience) at the symposium. It is also expected that presenting students attend and participate in the full Symposium.
Abstract Submission Instructions:

Abstracts should be no more than 300 words and are due March 1st, 2020. Selected students will be notified by April 1st, 2020 via email if they have been selected. To submit an abstract, please email dcwcouncil@gmail.com and attach your abstract as a PDF. In the text of the email please answer the following question: “Why would you like to come and present at this meeting?” Please put “DCWS Student Abstract Submission (Last Name)” in the subject line of the submission email. Additionally indicate what university or college you are affiliated with in the text of the email or your signature line.

Visit the 2020 Dairy Cattle Welfare Symposium website for addition information and updates: https://www.dcwcouncil.org/symposium